## Message Text

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**ORIGIN PRS-01** 

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TO AMCONSUL MUNICH IMMEDIATE
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**UNCLAS STATE 146175** 

TOSEC 389, ZFF4 MUNICH ONLY

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) SUBJECT: FULBRIGHT'S SWANSONG ON MEET THE PRESS

TO ANDERSON FROM KING

MADRID FOR MCCLOSKEY

SUMMARY: PANELISTS TRIED HARD FOR HEADLINES ABOUT WIRE-TAPS, WATERGATE AT SUMMIT, ETC., BUT SENATOR AIRILY WAIVED THEM OFF; MADE VERY LITTLE NEWS BUT HIGHLY COMPLIMENTARY OF SECRETARY'S PERFORMANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. BROKAW OPENED WITH REQUEST FOR EVALUATION OF SUMMIT RESULTS, BOTH TONE AND SUBSTANCE. FULBRIGHT REPLIED RESULTS WERE NOT AS GREAT AS HE HAD HOPED BUT ADDED HE WAS PLEASED THESE MEETINGS ARE BEING REGULARIZED. PRESIDENT'S REAL PROBLEM IN TRYING TO NEGOTIATE SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENTS WITH SOVS IS US CONGRESS AND CITED AS EXAMPLE HOUSE ACTION ON MFN.

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2. BERGER, NOTING THAT BREZHNEV CONSULTED AT LEAST TWICE

WITH SOV "CONGRESS", THE POLITBURO, WONDERED IF THIS HAPPENS IN DICTATORSHIP, SHOULD NOT HAVE US CONGRESS BEEN GIVEN ROLE AT SUMMIT, BOTH THIS ONE AND THOSE IN FUTURE. FULBRIGHT, REFUSING BAIT, SAYS BREZHNEV'S CONSULTATIONS WITH POLITBURO NOTHING NEW; KHRUSHCHEV USED TO DO IT ALL THE TIME. REFERRED TO "HABIT" OF RECENT CHIEF

EXECUTIVES IN NOT CUTTING CONGRESS IN ON EVERYTHING, AND RECALLED THAT WHEN LBJ WENT TO GLASSBOROUGH TO MEET KOSYGIN (?) HE ACTED LIKE A MAN WHO DIDN'T HAVE TO CONSULT ANYBODY ON ANYTHING. FULBRIGHT SAYS ADMINISTRATION IS WEAKENED BY FAILURE TO CONSULT WITH CONGRESS AND SFRC HAS REMINDED ADMIN ABOUT CONSULTING ON STRATEGIC ARMS, BUT MANY SENATORS IN ACCORD WITH MILITARY, AND ENCOURAGE THEM.

- 3. G. WILL TRIED TO LEARN IF THERE AGREEMENTS WE SHOULD HAVE REACHED AT MOSCOW BUT FAILED TO BECAUSE OF JACKSON AND HIS ILK. OH, SURE, SAID THE SENATOR, BUT OUR OWN MILITARY IS THE MAJOR OBSTACLE THESE NECESSARY AGREEMENTS. LUMPING JACKSON WITH THE MILITARY, RECALLED THEIR OPPOSITION TO SALT I. THE WEAKNESS IN THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION, HE OPINED, IS THE AGRESSIVENESS OF THE US MILITARY IN FIGHTING ARMS AGREEMENTS.
- 4. H.TREWITT TURNED TO SFRC'S INVESTIGATION OF SECRETARY'S ROLE IN WIRETAPPING AND WHETHER FULBRIGHT HAS COME TO ANY JUDGMENTS. "IT WOULD BE QUITE IMPROPER TO MAKE ANY JUDGMENTS AT THIS POINT," CAME THE REPLY. LATER BERGER TRIED AGAIN, ASKING IF THE SECRETARY'S ROLE IN AFFAIR TURNS OUT TO BE OTHER THAN HE HAS DESCRIBED IT, WOULDN'T THAT BE GROUNDS FOR RECONSIDERING THE SENATE'S; CONFIRMATION VOTE. DISMISSIVELY, FULBRIGHT SAID HE WOULDN'T SPECULATE ABOUT SFRC'S FINAL JUDGMENT AFTER INVESTIGATION (WHICH HE SAID BEGINS IN PRIVATE JULY 12), BUT HE ALLOWED AS HOW SECRETARY WOULD HAVE TO HAVE MISLED THE COMMITTEE IN "SUBSTANTIVE" WAY, "WHICH I DON'T BELIEVE HE DID."
- 5. L.SCHMIDLAP RAISED DETENTE AND MORALITY: HOW CAN YOU P; RSUE DETENTE WHILE IGNORING THE OBVIOUS MORAL QUESTIONS CONNECTED THEREWITH? FULBRIGHT COUNTERED, "I'M NOT A UNCLASSIFIED

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MORALIST, JUST A POLITICIAN. ISSUES LIKE THAT I LEAVE TO RELIGIOUS LEADERS." WENT ON TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT IT'S NOT USEFUL TO INJECT MORALITY QUESTIONS INTO POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS HE FOUND TO BE IN NATIONAL INTEREST.

6. BERGER HAD AT HIM ON PAT HOLT'S PRESENCE IN CUBA AND THE INSIDE SUBSTANCE OF FULBRIGHT'S CONVERSATION ON THIS ISSUE WITH SECRETARY. SENATOR SAID HE WAS ALWAYS OPPOSED

TO PRESENT CUBA POLICY, MUMBLED SOMETHING ABOUT SECRETARY NOT BEING "FREE" ON THIS ISSUE, AND CONCLUDED WITH NON-ANSWER THAT HOLT GOT HIS VISA (SIC).

- 7. G.WILL WANTED TO KNOW IF OCTOBER ALERT WAS JUSTIFIED, WHETHER BREZHNEV LETTER WAS AS "BRUTAL" AS SCOOP JACKSON SAID IT WAS. THE RESPONDENT WAS QUITE VAGUE ABOUT SUBJECT AND SORT OF REMEMBERED LETTER NOT VERY BRUTAL. HE DECLINED TO BE DRAWN IN ON A FOLLOWUP QUESTION ABOUT WHY EXECUTIVE BRANCH HAS NEVER TOLD WHOLE STORY OF ALERT.
- 8. TREWITT WANTED TO KNOW IF SENATOR FELT EUROPEAN DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES WAS A HEALTHY THING OR DOMESTIC DEVICE TO PAPER OVER PROFOUND ALLIANCE DIFFERENCES. REPLY WAS THAT IT WAS HEALTHY AND A GOOD THING.
- 9. SCHMIDLAP RAISED PALESTINIAN/JERUSALEM QUESTIONS AND ASKED HOW THEY COULD BE SOLVED. FULBRIGHT, NOTING HIS RECORD AS WITH CUBA, SAID PALESTINIANS SHOULD HAVE SOME KIND OF NATIONAL STATE. WHERE? OBVIOUSLY THE WEST BANK OR GAZA. SHOULD US GUARANTEE SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT? SURE. HOW ABOUT JERUSALEM? THERE SHOULD BE A SPECIAL STATUS FOR THE CITY, AS WITH VATICAN. EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO IT. A BRIEF CONFUSED DISCUSSION FOLLOWED.
- 10. BROKAW NOTED SECRETARY NOW IN EUROPE, IS PLANNING OTHER VISITS (MOSCOW, CHINA) LATER THIS YEAR AND GENERALLY SEEMED TO PLAN TO STAY ON ROAO A WHILE. DIDN'T SENATOR THINK THIS A LITTLE TOO MUCH? "OH, I'D LIKE FOR HIM TO SETTLE DOWN AND STAY HERE FOR A COUPLE OF MONTHS. IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR HIM AND GOOD FOR THE COUNTRY."

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- 11. SCHMIDLAP RAISED QUESTION OF ECONOMY NOW AND 15 YEARS AGO. FULBRIGHT SAYS ECONOMY IS IN DREADFUL CONDITION BECAUSE OF OVEREXTENSION IN FOREIGN COMMITMENTS. AS OPPOSED TO 15 YEARS AGO, WE ARE IN WORSE CONDITION. DANGER OF EXTREMELY SERIOUS DISLOCATION IN OUR ECONOMY; I.E. INFLATION AS RESULT OF NON-REPRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES AS BOMBS IN CAMBODIA WHICH CREATES POOR ECONOMIC SITUATION.
- 12. SCHMIDLAP RAISED QUESTION OF HAK'S INDISPENSIBILITY. FULBRIGHT SAYS HE IS NOT INDISPENSABLE BUT THE MOST QUALIFIED PERSON FOR SECSTATE POSITION PRESENTLY AND RATES HAK VERY HIGH ON ALL COUNTS. SISCO

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